



# Mishawaka Communicator



*Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.*

Dave Wood, Mayor

[www.mishawaka.in.gov](http://www.mishawaka.in.gov)

November 2014

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



This is the time of year when I like to provide an update regarding the many public works projects and other initiatives that are happening throughout the City. As winter weather approaches, the construction season for 2014 will soon be coming to its end and I'm pleased to say that many of those projects will be wrapping up with only a couple of them carrying over into 2015.

### Cleveland Road – reopened October 3

This project extended from Fir Road to State Road 23. This project included installation of a new water main and construction of drainage improvements to Cleveland Road. This project is complete with some minor traffic signal work and installation of sodding.

### Milburn Boulevard Area, Division J-II – reopen late October

This division of the ongoing Milburn Boulevard Area storm sewer improvements included work on Hubbard Avenue, Middleboro Avenue, Berlin Avenue, Grand Boulevard, and Cleveland Street. As with previous divisions, work included installation of separate storm sewers followed by replacement of street, sidewalk and curb. With placement of the final coat of asphalt surface during the week of October 20th, the remaining construction signs should be removed by the end of October.

### Gumwood Road – reopen end of October

This major street widening project extends north of State Road 23 one half mile to the northern City limit. Progress on this project was delayed by extensive utility conflicts along the west side of Gumwood. In addition to improvements to City and other public utility facilities, Gumwood was widened to accommodate two northbound and two southbound lanes and a center left-turn lane. A new traffic signal will be installed at Heritage Square and Gumwood.

### Twelfth Street/Harrison Road – reopen end of November

This street widening project extends from Lexington Boulevard to Blackberry Road and includes the installation of storm sewer, concrete curbs, sidewalks and street lights along both sides. The extension of sanitary sewer and water main was completed as part of the project's utility phase.

*(continued on next page)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

Nov 7- 8	"Singin' and
14-15	Dancin' Into The
21-22	Holidays"
	(Battell Center)
Nov 27-28	Thanksgiving
	Holiday
	(City Offices Closed)
Dec 5	Santa's Arrival
	(Downtown)
Dec 6	WinterFest
	(Merrifield Park - 5pm-8pm)
	◇ Free Ice Skating
	(weather permitting)
	◇ Refreshments
	◇ Live Nativity Scene
	◇ Ice Sculptor
	◇ Petting Zoo
	◇ Bonfire
	◇ Outdoor Movie -
	"The Grinch"
	◇ Santa (at Castle Manor)
	◇ Sleigh Rides
	(weather permitting)
Dec 24-25	Christmas Holiday
	(City Offices Closed)



## Energy Saving Tips

An energy-efficient home will keep your family comfortable while saving you money. Whether you take simple steps or make larger investments to make your home more efficient, you'll see lower energy bills. Over time, the savings will typically pay for the cost of improvements and put money back in your pocket. The key is to take a whole-house approach.

### Low Cost / No Cost Ways To Save Energy

- Install a programmable thermostat
- Turn off lights, tv's, computers when leaving a room
- Lower the water heater thermostat to 120°F
- Take short showers instead of baths
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes
- Plug home electronics into power strips that can be turned off when not in use
- Seal duct work
- Use ENERGY STAR® rated products

If you are in need of assistance this winter, you can reach a social services agency by calling 2-1-1.

## ONLINE ACCESS

The City of Mishawaka maintains an online presence and can be found on the web at <http://mishawaka.in.gov>.

Find us on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka>

Remember, the current issue of the Mishawaka Communicator is always available as of the 1st of every month at <http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator>

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

### **Mishawaka Avenue – reopen mid November, resume work spring 2015**

This street improvement project will be completed in multiple phases due to extensive utility relocations. This year the work occurred between Main Street and Division Street with new storm sewer, sanitary sewer rehabilitation, and new street, curb, and sidewalk. When this project resumes in the spring, the focus will be from Division Street to Cedar Street.

### **Church/Union Street – reopen end of November, resume work spring 2015**

This project, which extends from Lincolnway East to Ninth Street, also includes multiple phases. The project corrected the underdrain system at the railroad underpass to eliminate the water on the roadway. In addition, this project includes street widening to the Ninth St. intersection, and addition of retaining walls with concrete panels to improve the appearance of the underpass. The east side should be complete with improvements on the west side scheduled to be finished in 2015.

In order to complete various landscaping or punch-list items there may be minor short-term traffic restrictions so please continue to be attentive when travelling through the recently re-opened areas.



## **Government In Action**

### **2014 IMEA Lineworker's Rodeo**

This year Mishawaka was honored to host the 4th Annual Indiana Municipal Electric Association's Lineworkers' Rodeo, which uses a competitive format to showcase the safety and skills that are critical to the jobs that journeymen lineworkers use every day. Each year the event has grown and this year's "Rodeo on the River" lived up to all expectations as lineworkers from 11 municipalities across the state gathered at Beutter Park on Sept. 26-27.

Highlights from the event included the Mishawaka team of Chuck Bailey, Scott Flynn and Shawn Bolinger finishing 1st in the team event. Bailey also won the individual competition with Mishawaka's Dave Cochran and Scott Flynn finishing 2nd and 3rd respectively. The Sr. Journeyman event was won by Scottsburg's Jim Binkley with the Apprentice award going to Dustin Baker from Lebanon and Mishawaka's Nate Prenkert and Jack Kudlacz finishing 2nd and 3rd.

On a related note, apprentices Kudlacz and Prenkert also competed in the International Lineman's Rodeo World Championships held Oct. 17-18 in Kansas City, KS where they finished 1st and 2nd respectively.

### **Mercury in the Environment**

Mishawaka has begun to implement a Pollution Minimization Program to help educate citizens, businesses and industries about mercury and how to prevent its discharge to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mishawaka's treatment facility, like many treatment facilities, is not designed to treat mercury, though some removal does occur in the treatment process. The State of Indiana issues discharge permits to wastewater plants to limit the amount of pollutants in treated wastewater that can be safely discharged back into the environment.

Mercury in wastewater comes to the treatment plant from homes, medical facilities, dental offices, auto repair shops, industries and laboratories. In 2014, Mishawaka's Wastewater Treatment Plant received a new discharge limit for mercury in its treatment facility of 2.7 parts per trillion. To meet such a low mercury limit, Mishawaka will need the help of all citizens and businesses. Stopping mercury at the source by preventing it from entering the sewer system is the only way to meet the new limit in a cost effective way. In the coming months, the City's website will contain information on what you can do to help minimize the amount of mercury entering the sewer system.

### **Mayor's Youth Advisory Council 2014-2015**

Following a competitive application process by a record number of students, the following students were selected to serve on the 2014-2015 MYAC and took their Oath of Office on October 6, 2014. Elections were held following the oath.

<i>Mishawaka High School:</i>	Bradley Tanner, Austin Faulkner, Grace Gebo (Vice President), Luke Kasznia, Austin Kisrow, Anna Rohrer, Monica Shide, and Alexander Toth
<i>Penn High School:</i>	Jack Bender, Reis Kennedy, Collin Pica, Logan McGuire and Jack Spalding
<i>Marian High School:</i>	Jennifer Alwine, Nick Pingel, Michael Portolese (President), Taylor Ryan-Sizemore, Mallory Spiess (Treasurer), Maria Tordi (Secretary), Gina Tordi, Hunter Wiczorek, Natalie Winters, Abbey Wood, and Haley Wood.

The group's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive is currently underway with a goal of providing 60 Mishawaka families with a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. During their terms, other activities in which members of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council will be involved include seminars, field trips and various community service projects.

**Send your questions, comments, or concerns to [communicator\\_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov](mailto:communicator_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov)**